



Afternoon Alert - Monday, June 5, 2017

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

Most networks led with reports that the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the latest terrorist attack in London.

## ECONOMY

### Energy Secretary Perry, Trade Minister Seko agree to cooperate on Fukushima decommissioning

TBS reported at noon on a meeting between Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Seko and visiting Secretary of Energy Perry this morning, during which the two ministers agreed on continued U.S.-Japan cooperation toward decommissioning the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. Secretary Perry reportedly said the U.S. will provide any assistance for decontaminating or decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi. According to the network, Secretary Perry touched upon the recent announcement by President Trump that the U.S. will withdraw from the 2015 Paris Agreement, and said "the United States will remain committed to environmental issues." In response, Seko reportedly said: "The announcement was regrettable, but the United States is the leader in environmental technology. Let's work together in various energy-related fields." According to the network, the two ministers also discussed the Toshiba issue and agreed for their nations to continue to share information on the matter. They also reportedly confirmed that the Toshiba issue should not undermine the foundation of bilateral nuclear cooperation.

- [Apple, Amazon to back Foxconn on Toshiba chip bid, Gou says](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

- [Japan in Depth / Fiscal discipline fears arise in govt's draft policy](#) (The Japan News)
- [Gov't draws up reform draft to provide free preschool education](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Japan crafting antitrust guidelines on big data](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Editorial: Support of areas within 30-km zone vital for reactor restarts](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Interview series \(Part 4\): Former FSC Chairman Hiroshi Yoshikawa on fiscal expansion](#) (Nikkei)
- [Interview series \(Part 5\): Mayor Okazaki on Kochi City's healthcare costs](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan should lead int'l efforts for fishery resource management: paper](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Japan's aircraft parts makers stall as Boeing downshifts](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Diet enacts port law aimed at attracting foreigners on cruise ships](#) (Kyodo News)

## INTERNATIONAL

- [U.S. vows engagement in green issues even after Paris accord exit](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan, U.S. ministers meet over energy cooperation](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan's statement regarding the U.S. announcement of its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement](#) (TV / Social media)
- [Trump shock waves threaten cracks in global relations](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Editorial: Withdrawal from Paris pact a foolish judgment that loses the world's trust](#) (The Japan News)
- [Editorial: Trump's selfish decision must not mislead the rest of the world](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Editorial: U.S. pullout from Paris climate accord a betrayal of humanity's future](#) (The Mainichi)

- [Editorial: Prevent Paris accord from losing teeth after U.S. withdrawal](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: Can Japan remain indifferent to U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Agreement?](#) (Sankei)
- [Editorial: Withdrawal from Paris accord will isolate U.S.](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [U.S. exit from Paris climate deal worries firms, local govts / 'Just when enthusiasm was rising'](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan business leaders question U.S. withdrawal from Paris accord](#) (Kyodo News)
- [U.S. climate deal exit may stall Japan greenhouse gas cut policy](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Gov't urged by environmentalists to seek U.S. return to Paris deal](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Opinion: Only way to deal with U.S. exit from Paris accord is to wait for Trump to leave office](#) (Mainichi)
- [Gist of joint statement by Japan, U.S., ROK defense ministers, June 3](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Australia, Japan, U.S. defense heads agree to up pressure on N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Editorial: Reinforce international pressure on North Korea from multiple angles](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan running out options for dealing with DPRK](#) (Mainichi)
- [Japan, China officials agree to promote exchanges](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan, Malaysia defense chiefs agree to work closely on N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan, South Korea to keep sharing military intelligence](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Putin's concern about U.S. military puts off prospective investors in Northern Territories](#) (Asahi)
- [Senior U.S. official says North Korea should be isolated by sanctions](#) (Mainichi)
- [China uses UN sanction "loophole" to make fishing right payments to North Korea](#) (Yomiuri)

- [Global Economy / Firms eye promising growth in Africa](#) (The Japan News)
- [Vietnam weighing “best options” after U.S. exit from TPP: PM](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Laos prime minister to visit Japan from Sunday](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan, Georgia agree to start talks on bilateral investment pact](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Leader of A-bomb survivors’ group to step down](#) (Kyodo News)

## SECURITY

### **F-35 assembled in Japan rolled out**

Sankei and Jiji reported online that an F-35 assembled by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries was unveiled at a plant in Aichi Prefecture on Monday. As one of the 42 units that the ASDf plans to procure, the plane will be used in the U.S. initially for training Japanese pilots. A total of 38 stealth fighters will be assembled by the Japanese manufacturer after importing components produced by Lockheed-Martin.

### **GOJ condones use of Navy ramp at Kadena**

Saturday morning’s Ryukyu Shimpo and Okinawa Times highlighted press remarks on Friday by Defense Minister Inada, who said in effect that the GOJ will not take issue with the use of a Navy ramp at Kadena AB on an “exceptional basis.” She made the comment in connection with the arrival at Kadena last week of four USFK planes that are currently parked on the ramp. Ryukyu Shimpo has reportedly learned of the existence of a bilateral agreement between Tokyo and Washington concerning the continued use of hangars and other facilities on the Navy ramp, suspecting that the U.S. side justifies the use of the ramp on account of this accord, although a MOD source insisted that the Japanese side’s interpretation is that the facilities can only be used for storage. The dailies underscored that the two governments “misinterpreted” the 1996 SACO final report, which the outlets claim calls for the discontinuation of the use of the Navy ramp pending the transfer of its functions to another location on the base, arguing that U.S. military operations are given priority over the lives and the property of the Okinawan people. Noting that the GOJ has spent some \$140 million to provide the U.S. military with a separate apron that was constructed at the other end of the base in January this year, the papers suspected that the Navy ramp will probably be used for transient military aircraft.

- [Cohen: Trump not planning preemptive attack on DPRK](#) (The Japan News)
- [Okinawa Marine arrested for DUI](#) (Okinawa Times)
- [Japan taking cues from Israel on cybersecurity](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

- [Japan holds evacuation drills amid N. Korean missile threat](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Inada, Mattis agree Japan-U.S. drill will boost deterrence](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Nations pledge to bolster nuclear security legal frameworks](#) (Kyodo News)

## **POLITICS**

### **Politicians exchange views on Kantei's alleged pressure on Education Ministry**

During NHK's Sunday morning "Nichiyo Toron" debate program, policy affairs officials of the ruling and opposition parties expressed different views on the claim by former Vice Education Minister Maekawa that the Kantei pressured the ministry to approve the launch of a veterinary school in Ehime Prefecture by an educational institution operated by a close friend of Prime Minister Abe. The ruling officials dismissed the opposition's call for sworn Diet testimony by Maekawa by saying that his assertion is groundless. The officials also discussed North Korea's continued provocations and the anti-conspiracy legislation.

- [Prime minister's schedule on June 4](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on June 3](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on June 2](#) (Nikkei)
- [Hashimoto: Stipulate SDF in separate provision](#) (The Japan News)
- [Abe's purpose in dining with media executives](#) (THEMIS)

## **OPINION POLLS**

- [Highlights of the May 2017 Jiji Press Public Opinion Poll](#) (Jiji Press Public Opinion Poll Bulletin)
- [Trend in average cabinet support rate, Saitama University Social Survey Research Center](#) (Saitama University Social Survey Research Center)

## **SCIENCE**

- [Step aside, GPS, the Japanese "Michibiki" promises higher accuracy positioning system](#) (Japan Forward)

## **SOCIETY**

## Relative poverty dims prospects for Japanese kids

Sunday's "NHK Special" reported on the future of children in Japan. The program introduced the results of a GOJ survey targeting youth from seven nations including Japan, the U.S., the UK, and South Korea, which found that while more than 80% of youth from other nations felt they had a bright future, only 62% of young Japanese did. The program said one of the reasons for this is that one out of six children in Japan are in a state of relative poverty and if the situation is not resolved, it could affect not only the children's education and development but also be a huge loss for society as a whole. Discussions are reportedly being held on improving assistance for small children in order to break the cycle of poverty and create a society in which all children can have hope. Celebrities, experts, and ordinary citizens exchanged views on how to address the issue of relative child poverty. While one panelist stressed the importance of providing special assistance for single-parent households, another stressed the importance of having empathy for those who are suffering from poverty.

## Traditions of Kyoto's geisha

Saturday's "NHK Special" reported on one of the historic *ochaya*, or tea houses, in Gion, Kyoto, where more than 100 geisha live and work. The program focused on Kimi Ota, the 77-year-old proprietress of the 200-year-old *ochaya* called Tomiyo, where customers are not allowed to enter without a referral. The program said Tomiyo has a strict family tradition that the eldest daughter of the family must operate the tea house, cannot get married, and must be succeeded by a daughter born out of wedlock. The program followed Ota and her decision to finally let her daughter take over.

- [Media also to blame for threats to independence, says U.N. expert](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
  - [Japan sees record population drop in 2016 as births fall below 1 mil.](#) (Kyodo News)
  - [LGBTQ abuse victims suffering in silence](#) (The Japan Times)
  - [The arrested development of female prisons](#) (The Japan Times)
  - [93,000 persons with disabilities hired in fiscal 2016, MHLW](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
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